

# Welcome

## To the Benefice of Epperstone, Gonalston, Oxton & Woodborough

If you are new here in our Churches please introduce yourself.  
We pray that God will bless us in our worship together  
and warmly welcome you into our communities.

### Church Services

#### Maundy Thursday – 2<sup>nd</sup> April

7pm Holy Communion Oxton

#### Good Friday – 3<sup>rd</sup> April

7pm Holy Communion Epperstone

#### Easter Sunday – 5<sup>th</sup> April

9.30am Holy Communion Woodborough

11am Holy Communion Gonalston

#### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April

10.30am Holy Communion Oxton

#### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April

12noon Holy Communion Woodborough  
& shared lunch

#### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April

9.30am Morning Prayer Epperstone

#### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April

10am Holy Communion Woodborough

### Annual Parochial Church Meetings

Oxton 12<sup>th</sup> April 11.30am

Epperstone 15<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm

Woodborough 26<sup>th</sup> April 11am

Gonalston To be confirmed

### THE ARK ON SUNDAY



**CRAFTS AND ACTIVITIES,  
FAMILY FUN, FELLOWSHIP,  
COFFEE & CROISSANTS.**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month  
10 am

St Swithun's Woodborough

**No Ark in April**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**

**Everyone welcome**

For further information contact  
Annie Hill  
07890 776809



Oxton Village Hall

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April  
10am-11am**

All children aged 3 years plus  
are welcome for games, stories,  
activities & a snack together!

For more information contact  
Sandra Hall 0115 9653901



St. Swithun's, Woodborough

### Easter Play Session

**For all the Family**

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April

9.30 – 11am

**Play Church**

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

9:30 – 11am

Coffee Drop In  
at Oxton Church



Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April

10.00 – 11.30am

Please come along for a coffee and a  
chat... All welcome!

**WOODBOROUGH  
COFFEE DROP IN**

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month

10am-12pm



**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May**

### Good Friday Family Activities



3<sup>rd</sup> April 2.30-4pm

Oxton Village Hall

the  
**HAPPINESS**  
lab

Come and explore what psychologists,  
doctors and faith leaders have to say  
about happiness

9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> April

7.15pm for 7.30pm – 9pm

St Swithun's, Woodborough

### CHOIR PRACTICE



Holy Cross Church Epperstone

Wednesday evenings 7.30pm

Contact Geoff on 07447 127335  
or email at [thcnield@outlook.com](mailto:thcnield@outlook.com)

### Woodborough Church Fellowship

Second Tuesday of the month at The  
Institute, Roe Lane

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2-4pm**

Plants that Attract Bees  
Alex Thompson

## Church Contacts

### Administrator & Safeguarding

Susan Wilkes 07951 143162

[Office.egowbenefice@gmail.com](mailto:Office.egowbenefice@gmail.com)

Vicar 07494 049531

[Vicar.egowbenefice@gmail.com](mailto:Vicar.egowbenefice@gmail.com)

### Children & Families worker

Annie Hill 07890 776809

[Anniehill1606@virginmedia.com](mailto:Anniehill1606@virginmedia.com)

### Churchwardens

#### Epperstone

Wyn Needham 0115 9665118

#### Gonalston

Neil Allen 07976 844261

Liell Francklin 07870 555712

#### Oxton

Mike Newell 07850 965221

Helen Lees 07866 364102

#### Woodborough

Ray & Liz Goddard 07961 755457

### Facebook

Benefice Churches of Epperstone  
Gonalston Oxton Woodborough

### Safeguarding

Our parish is committed to encouraging an environment where everyone, and especially children and those who may be vulnerable for any reason, are able to worship and engage in their faith journey with encouragement and in safety.

**If you have concerns about the welfare of anyone please contact:**

Susan Wilkes: 07951 143162

[office.egowbenefice@gmail.com](mailto:office.egowbenefice@gmail.com)

## News and Prayers

Would you like to receive our church news and notices by email?



Or join our WhatsApp groups for news and/or prayers?

Please get in touch with Susan on 07951 143162 or email: [office.egowbenefice@gmail.com](mailto:office.egowbenefice@gmail.com)

### HELP US FEED THE HUNGRY

#### ST ANN'S FOOD BANK



We are collecting for St Ann's food bank, who are desperately in need of tinned and dried food and toiletries. Please leave any donations in the trolley in Woodborough Church porch or at the back of Oxton Church for our volunteers to deliver.

Thank you

### Donations

If you would like to donate towards the work and upkeep of Epperstone Church, please scan this QR code to be taken to our giving site.



Thank you for your kind donation

Epperstone, Gonalston, Oxton & Woodborough

Benefice Newsletter April 2026



Dear Friends,

We have finally had a few nice sunny, warm days without rain. It has been a long, wet winter! What a joy it is to get out in the garden or go for a walk and see the signs of Spring with leaves appearing on the trees and in the hedgerows. What a joy to behold, and it's something that fills us with hope.

Easter will soon be here which will give us a three day period of experiencing different emotions: Good Friday brought suffering, as Jesus died on the cross. Saturday brought silence... a time of loss and mourning. But Sunday brought victory and hope was restored.

Those three days must have tested the disciples beyond measure. Their expectations collapsed. Their courage wavered, and heaven seemed quiet. Yet God was keeping his promise... a promise that on the third day Jesus would rise from the dead and sit at the right hand of his Father in heaven. He died to bring us nearer to God and through that relationship we can live as forgiven people.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the World that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

So let us all celebrate the miracle of Easter, and the beauty of God's Creation. We wish you all a very Blessed Easter.

The Staff Team